

Maine School IPM Fact Sheet

Lawn Care



Lawns require different management strategies according to the amount and type of use and the school's priorities for the lawn's aesthetic appearances. Lawns that have a high priority for use and appearance (Level A) need more management than lower priority lawns (Level B).

Level A Lawns

- * Proper design and construction is essential and includes providing drainage (surface and sub surface), 4 -6 inches of loam, adapted turfgrass species, and proper establishment techniques at the right time.
- * Best Management Practices include:
 - (1) Irrigate in late summer if turf is dormant
 - (2) Mow at 2.5 3.0 inches, frequently enough to never remove more than 1/3 of the leaf blade. This also eliminates clipping build up.
 - (3) Mow with sharp mowers, when turf is dry and soil is not excessively moist.
 - (4) Soil Test, and adjust pH as needed.
 - (5) Fertilize with 50% 100% WIN material. Use rate of 1.0 lb. N / M around May 15, and Sept. 15
 - (6) Phosphorus and potassium fertilization amounts should be based on a soil test.
 - (7) Aerify once per year either in the spring or fall.
 - (8) Scout for weed, insect or disease problems.

Level B Lawns

- * Proper design and construction is essential and includes providing drainage (surface and subsurface), good root mix, adapted turfgrass species, and proper establishment techniques at the right time.
- * Best Management Practices include:
 - (2) Mow at 2.5 3.0 inches, frequently enough to never remove more than 1/3 of the leaf blade. This also eliminates clipping build up.
 - (3) Mow with sharp mowers, when turf is dry and soil is not excessively moist.
 - (4) Soil Test and adjust pH as needed.
 - (5) Fertilize with 50% 100% WIN material. Use rate of 1.0 lb. N / M around Sept. $\,15\,$
 - (6) Phosphorus and potassium fertilization amounts should be based on a soil test.
 - (7) Scout for weed, insect or disease problems.